

Water Pollution Sensor Priorities: Arsenic

March 9, 2016



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Purpose

- Advancing water sensor technologies & data analytics a priority for EPA & the nation
- Part of effort to accelerate development & use of sensors for:
 - **Arsenic**
 - **Harmful algal bloom (HAB) toxins**
 - **Total nitrogen and phosphorus**
 - ***E. coli & Enterococcus***
- NWQMC meeting in May 2016 to share requirements & explore steps to implementation

Collaborators

- Association of Clean Water Administrators
- Association of State Drinking Water Administrators
- National Water Quality Monitoring Council
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Geological Survey
- U.S. Park Service
- Water Environment Federation



Current Approach – Arsenic Monitoring

- **Laboratory Methods**

- Colorimetry ✓
- Hydride Generation Atomic Absorption Spectrometry ✓
- Electrothermal Atomic Absorption Spectrometry ✓
- Inductively Coupled Plasma-Atomic Emission Spectrometry ✓
- Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry ✓

- **Field and on-line methods**

- On-line voltammetry instruments ✗
- Field test strips ✗

✓	EPA-Approved
✗	Not EPA-Approved

Drawbacks to Current Approach

- Lab-based methods:
 - Time lag from sample collection to data
 - Difficult to make real-time decisions (e.g. process control)
- High per-sample collection & analysis cost
- Limited data (due to cost)
- Lab instruments require trained analysts

Potential Benefits & Applications of Advanced Arsenic Sensors

Benefits

- “Real-time” data
- Easy to operate
- Continuous monitoring
- Field-deployable
- Portable
- Affordable

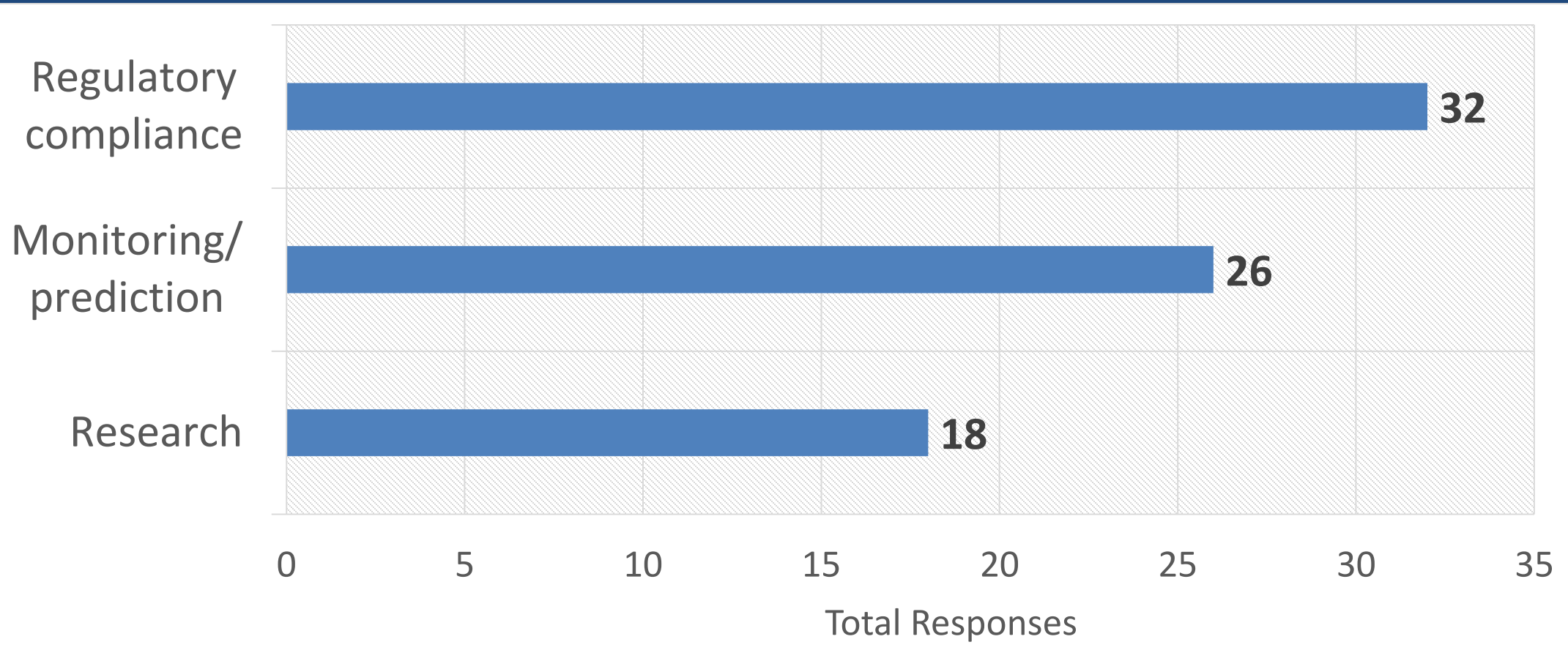
Applications

- Drinking water:
 - Source monitoring
 - Point of use monitoring
 - Treatment optimization
- Wastewater treatment
- Contaminated site monitoring

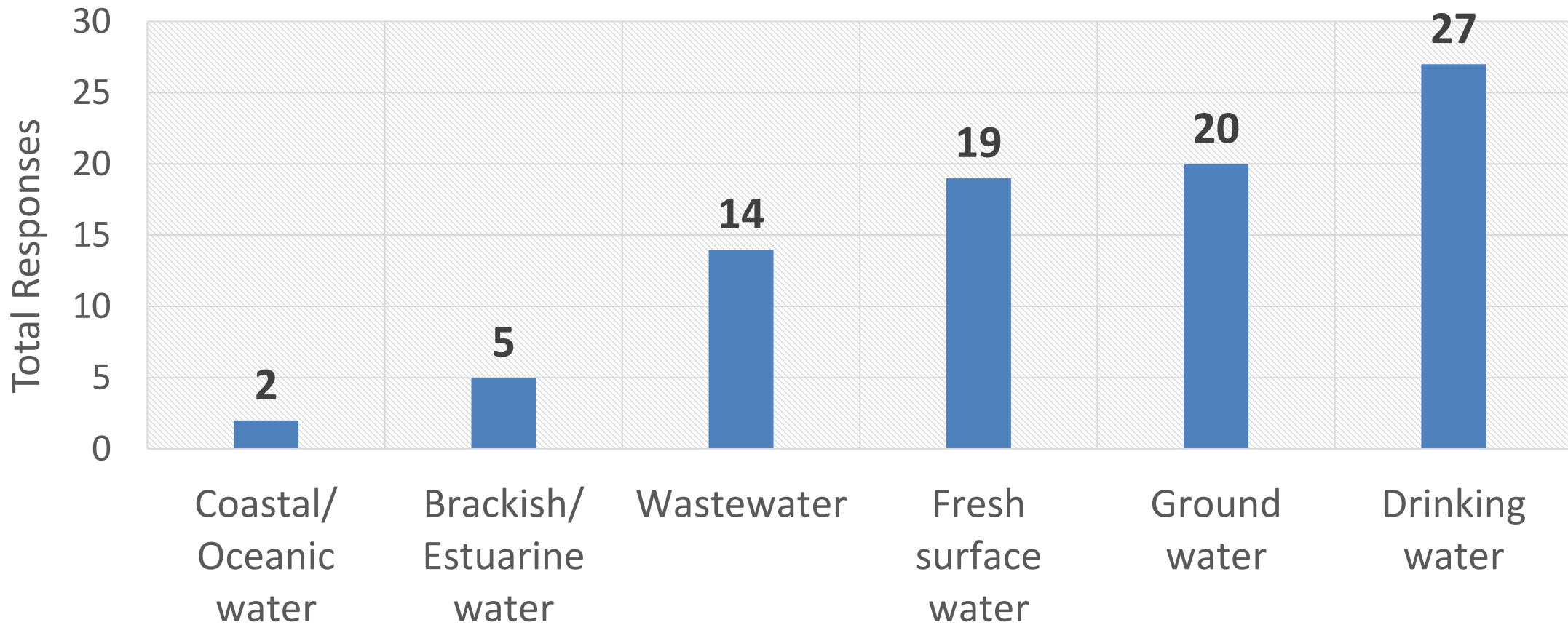
Feedback on requirements

- Reasons for monitoring
- Sample results response time
- Desired measurement frequency
- Sample environment
- Concentration range desired (lower and upper LOD)
- Price points

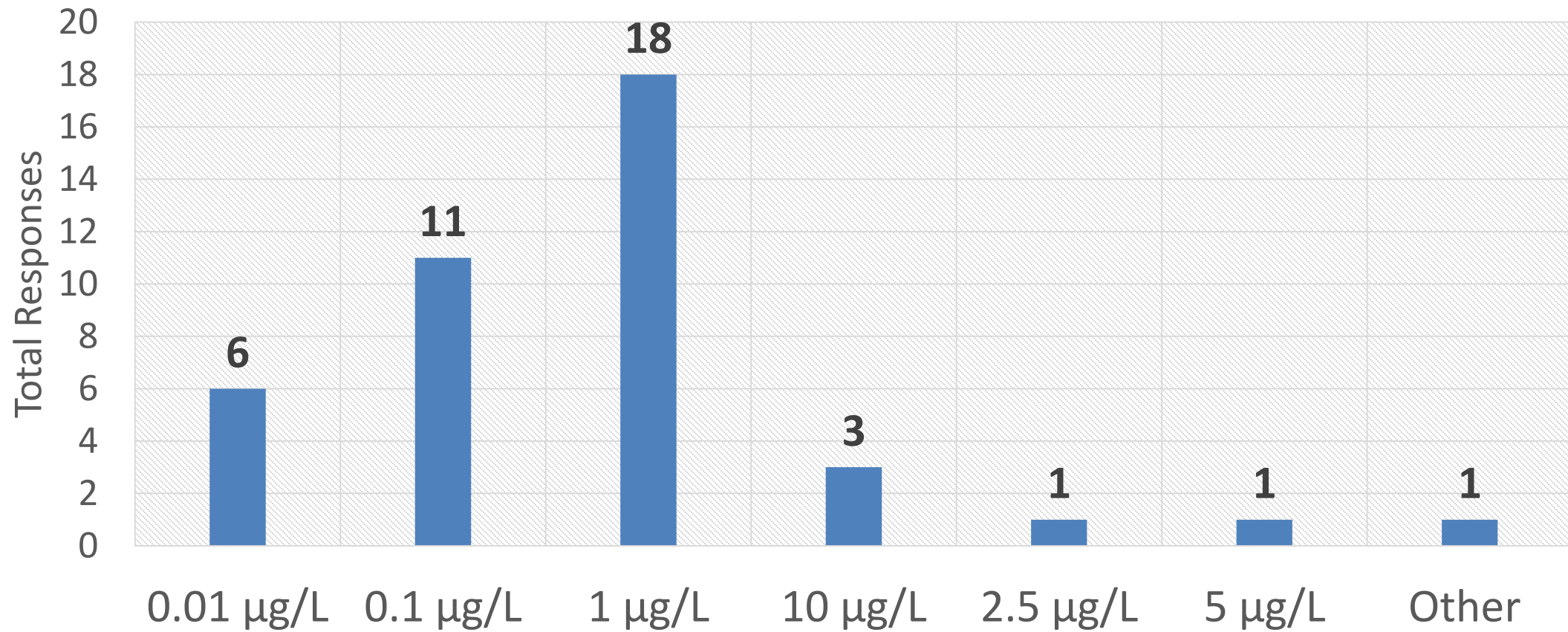
Reasons for Monitoring



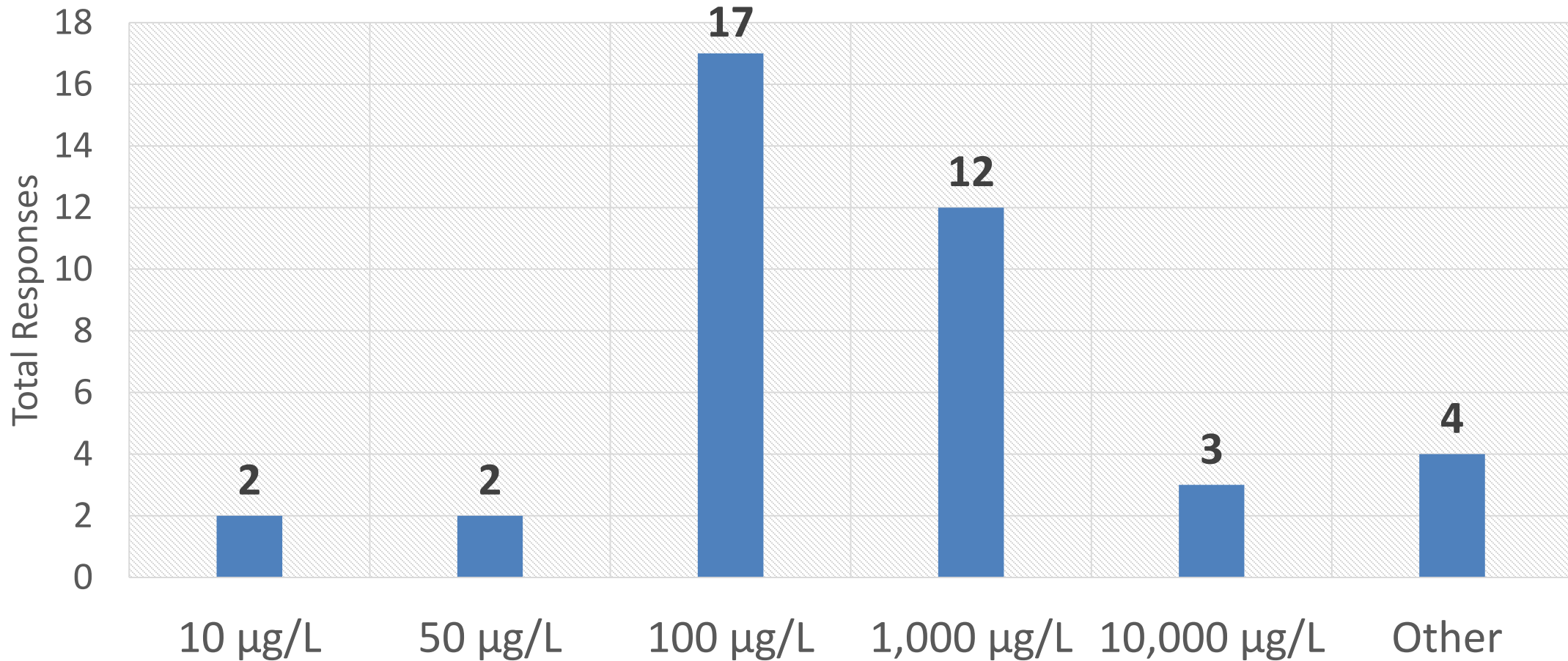
Environment



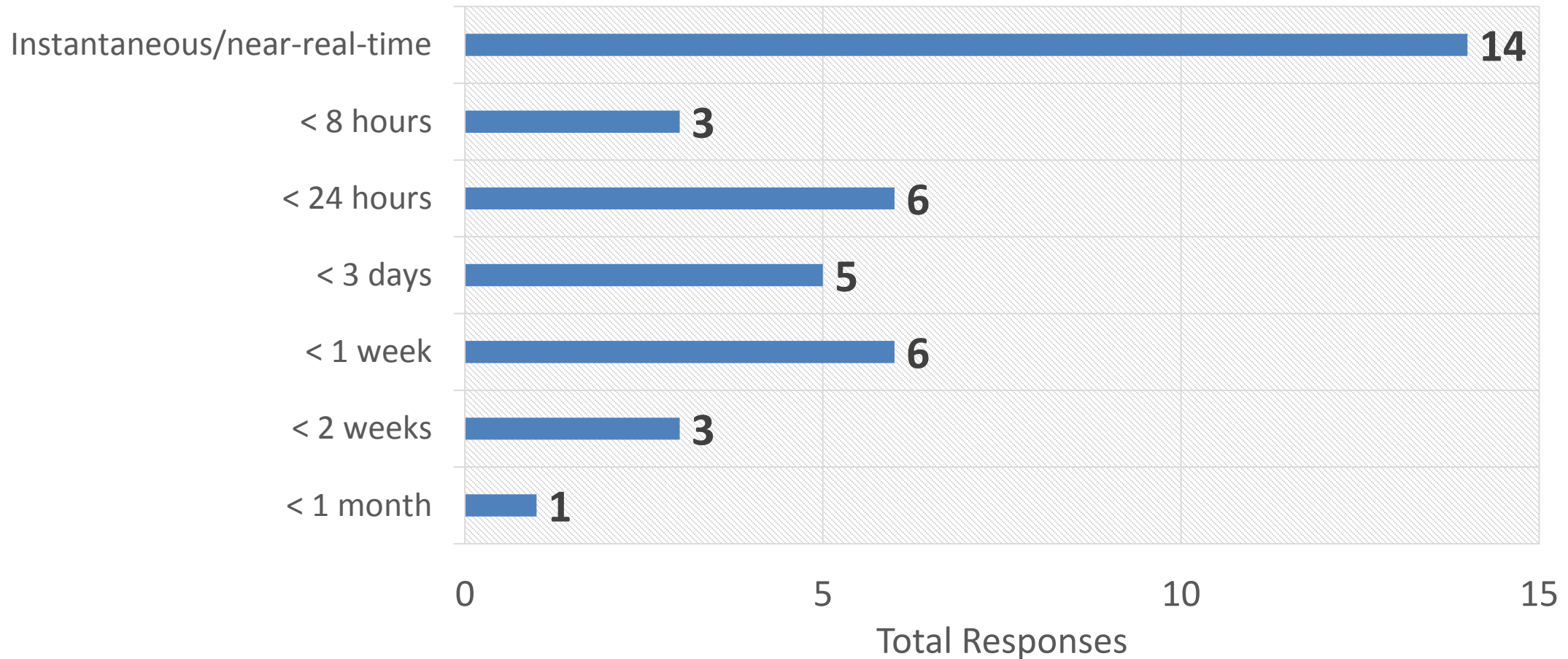
Limit of Detection - Lower



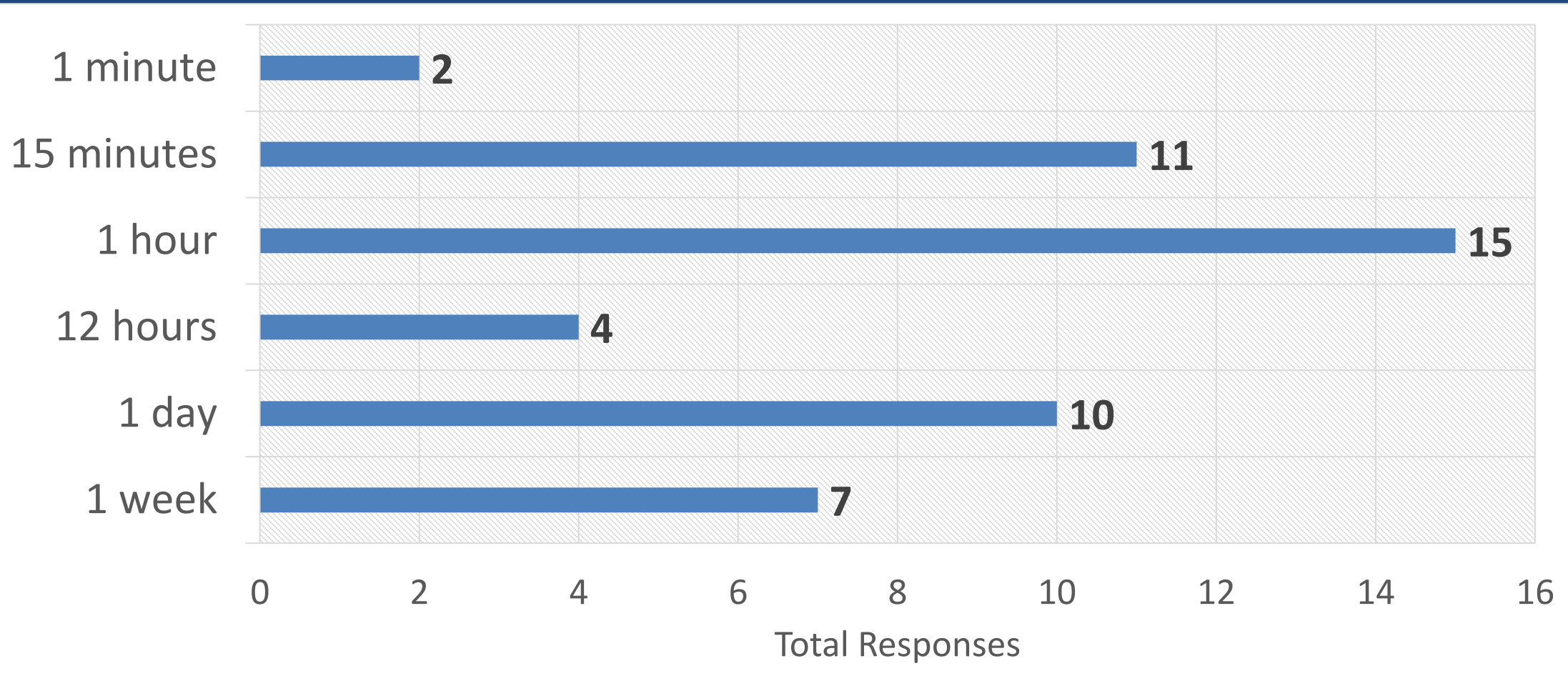
Limit of Detection - Upper



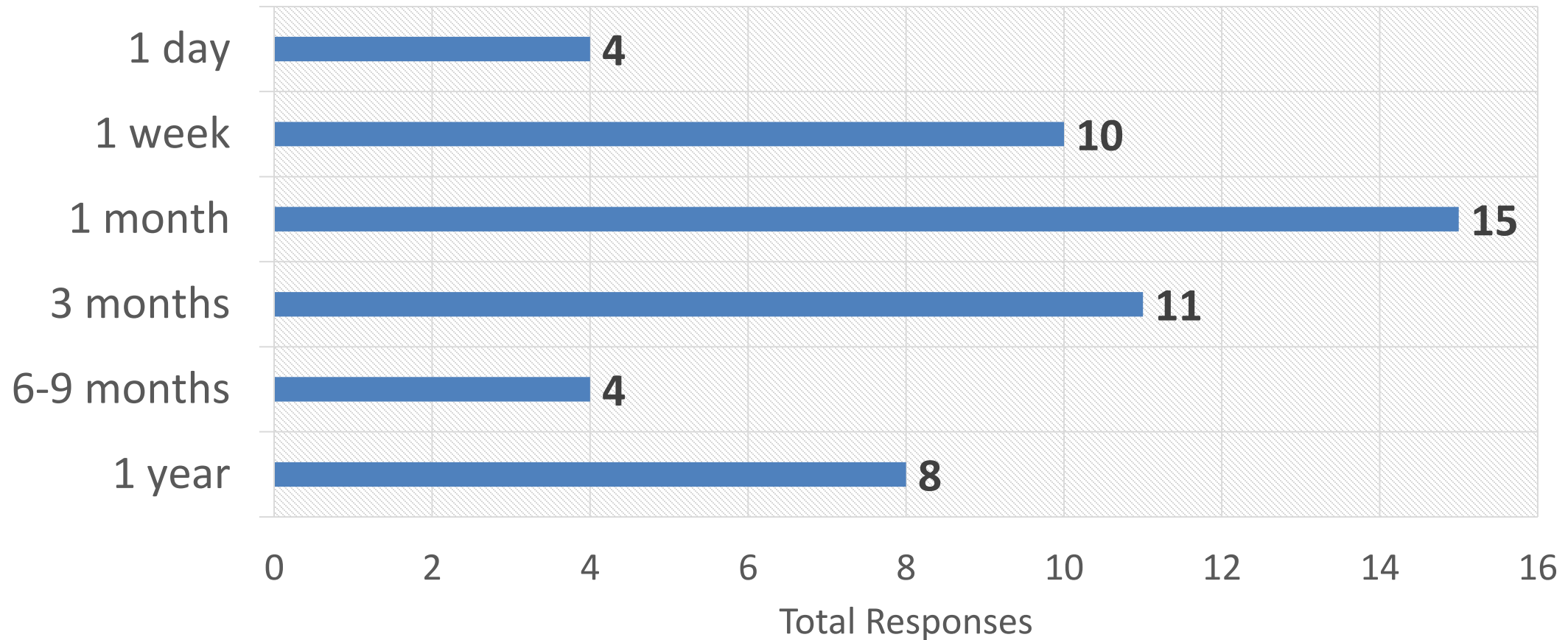
Sampling Results Response Time



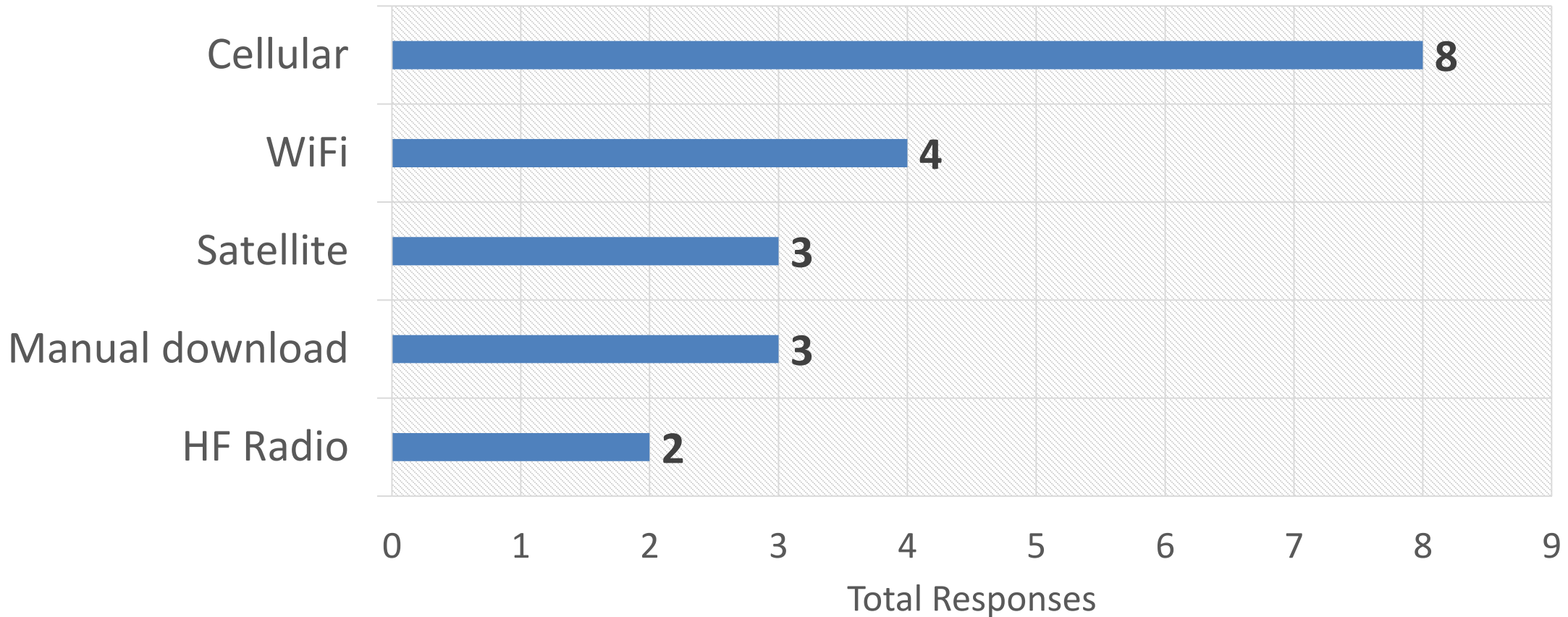
Desired Measurement Frequency



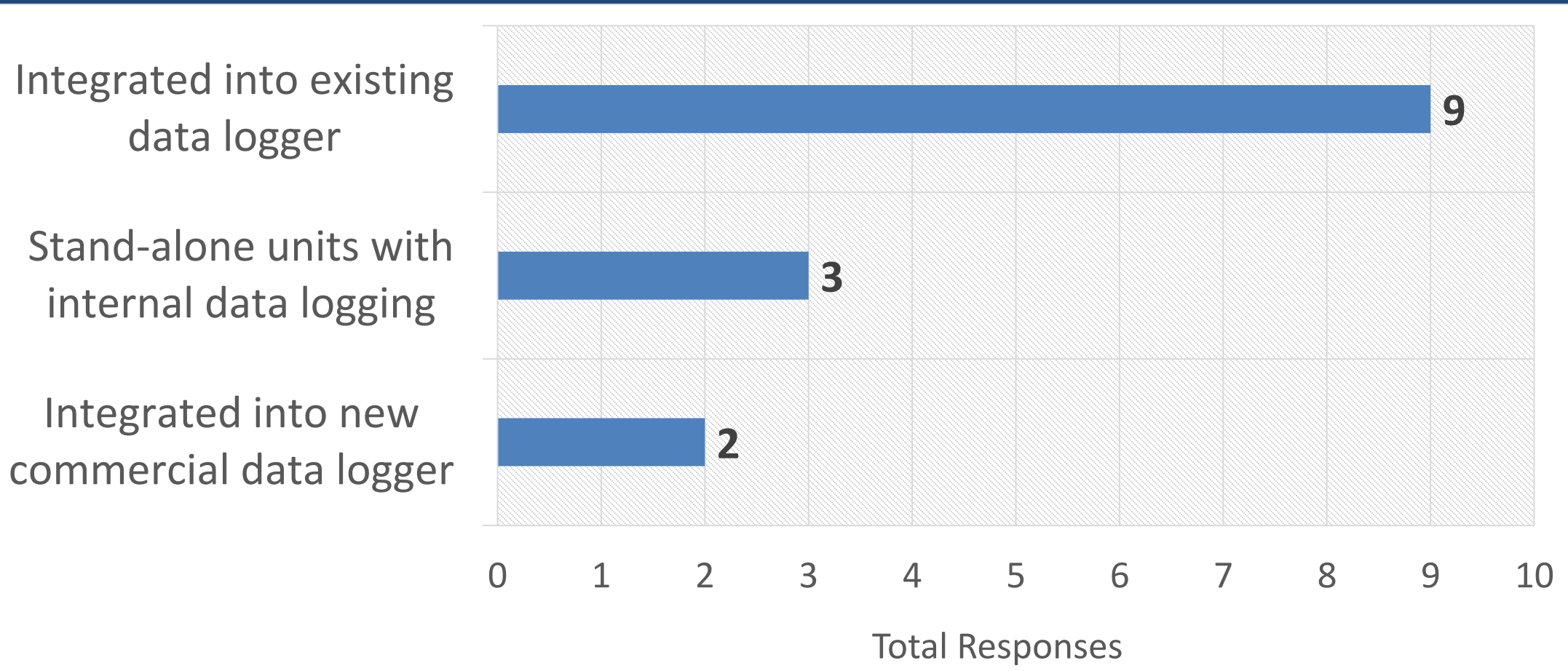
Deployment Duration



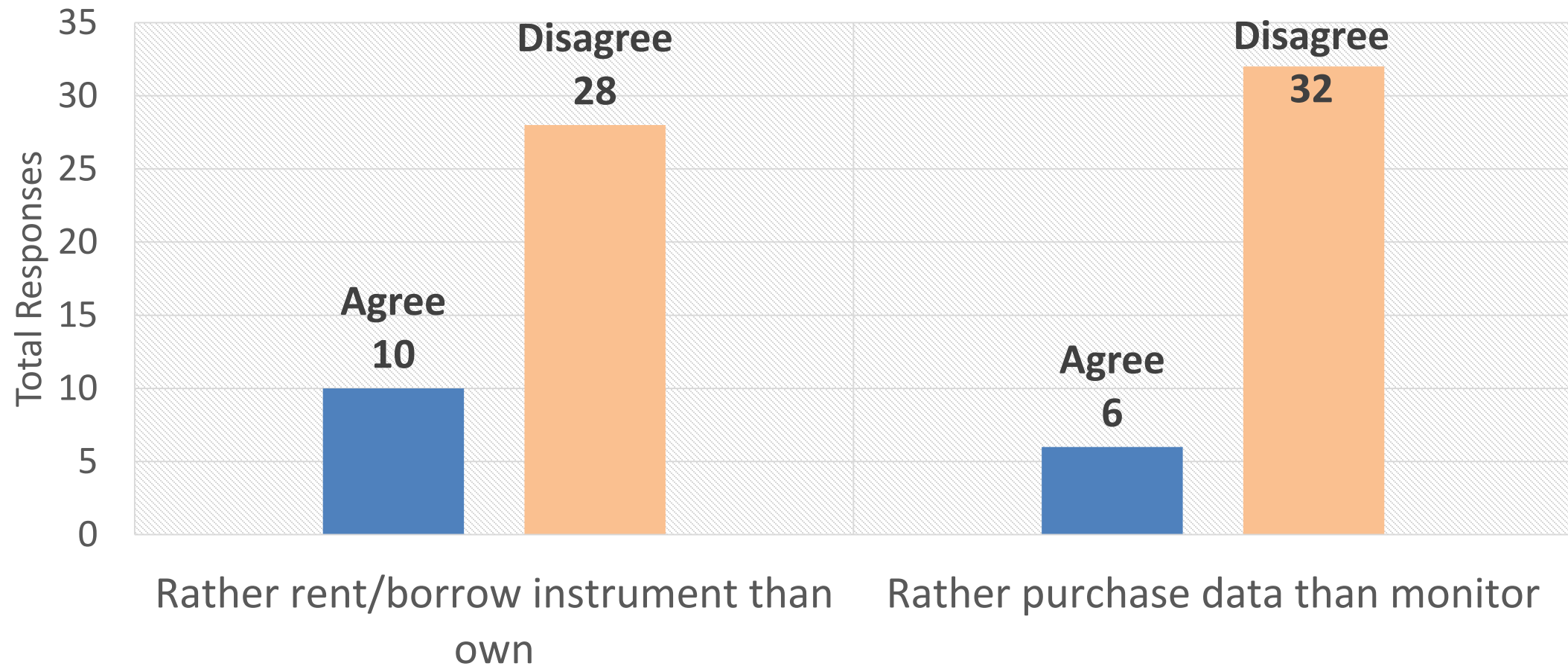
Data Transmission Method



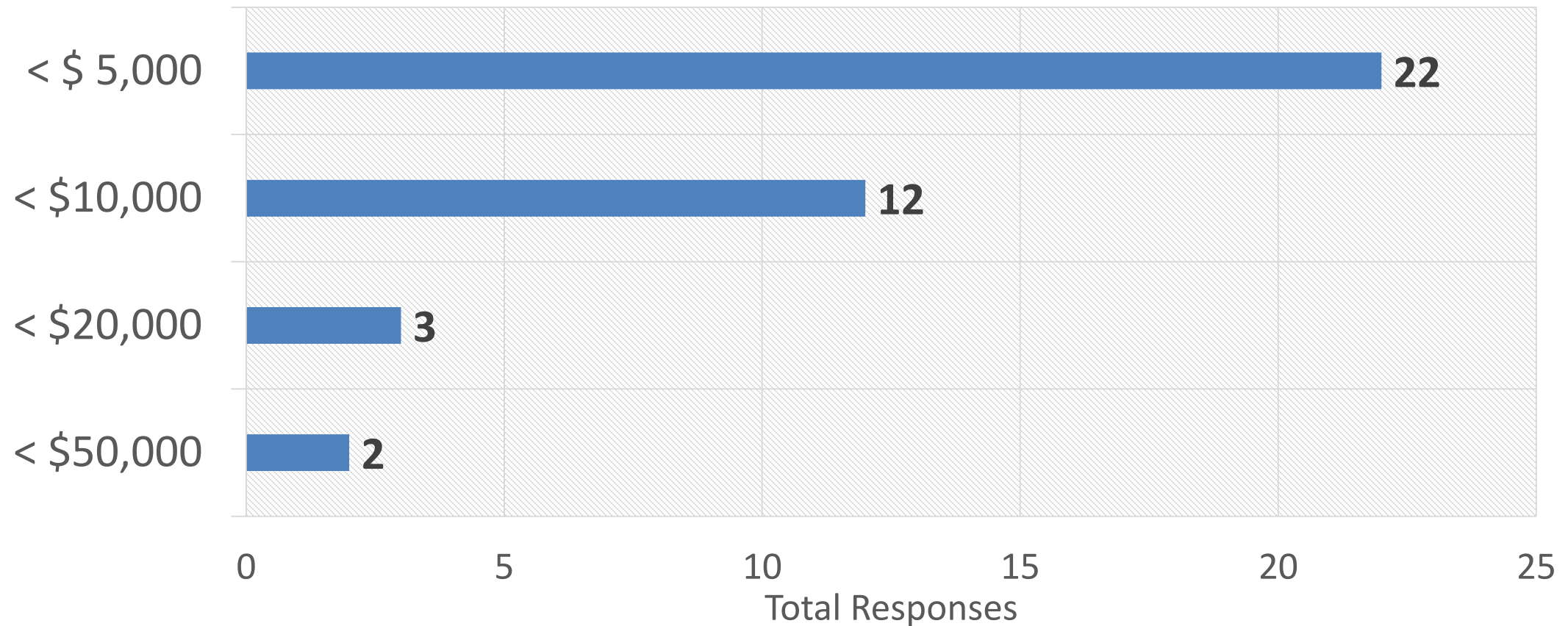
Data Logging Integration



Data and Instrument Access Preferences



Price Point



Next Steps

- Draft arsenic sensor technology needs report
- Presentation & discussion at National Water Quality Monitoring Conference, May 2-6 2016, Tampa, FL
- Arsenic Sensor Challenge

Water Prize Competition Center

Share your expertise and ideas!

You can help solve some of the most critical water and water-related resource problems facing our Nation!

Water Availability



Ecosystem Restoration



Infrastructure Sustainability



Learn more at www.usbr.gov/research/challenges

Advanced Water Treatment Technologies

What's our Objective?

Reclamation believes advanced water treatment technologies can do more to expand our Nation's useable water supplies.

What Do We Do About It?

Reclamation sponsors and conducts research in this area to help advanced the technologies so that they are more broadly used for this purpose.



Reclamation Uses for Improved Arsenic Sensors



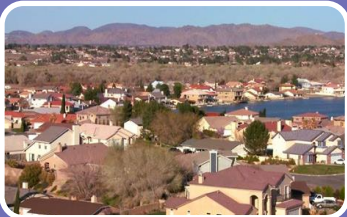
Undeveloped Source Characterization

- Identify best source for new water supply
- Understand source variability and treatment needs



Advanced Water Treatment

- Real-time adjustment of treatment process operation
- Process optimization to reduce treatment costs



New Water Supply

- Confirm treated water meets requirements for public health



Treatment Residuals

- Ensure treatment residuals meet discharge requirements to protect the environment

Discussion

- What other sensor features should be included?
- Besides an affordable sensor, what is your biggest challenge in arsenic monitoring?

Thank you for your input!

- Please attend the other webinars in this series:
 - HAB* toxins - March 16th, 2-3 PM (ET)
 - Total N & Total P - March 23rd, 2-3 PM (ET)
 - *E. coli* & *Enterococcus* - March 30, 2-3 PM (ET)
- New website for sensor R&D funding:
 - <https://www.sbir.gov/Sensor-technology-for-the-21st-century>
- Questions/additional feedback?
 - innovation@epa.gov